



Atlantic Woodworker's Association

AWA Newsletter

Atlantic Woodworkers
Association

March 2016

7129 Morningside Dr., Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3L 2E5

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Our meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. We meet at 60 Hastings Road In Dartmouth.

March Challenge: is to be titled “Marking Time”. The challenge will ask members to think about how you can track time with wood and wood-enhanced pieces. Think sun dial, hourglass, clocks, and other timekeepers. Put on your thinking hats and make us something that can mark the passing of time for you and others.

I cut it twice and it's still too short.
The most productive shop I've seen are usually messy.

Auction: A Delta Mortising machine will be made available on our auction page starting Feb 20 and running for 2 weeks at which time the final bid will win this great device. The machine is typically listed in the \$250-300 range given the condition this one is in.

We thank Gene Nurse for his donation of the machine.

PS: there was a picture circulated to members in an earlier mailout.

Registrar: Walt addressed the group as the new AWA registrar with a plan to develop an online registration and renewal system. He demonstrated a prototype of the new system (because of not having wifi it was done as a powerpoint presentation). Working with the web team (Don, Mary Elizabeth and Stephen), we will flesh this process out in the next month or so.

Main Presentation: Don Shubaly walked the group through the use of – and sharpening techniques for – scrapers (also known as cabinet scrapers or card scrapers). Don presented a variety of his own scrapers and explained how he finds them an important device that works in collaboration with your planer, hand planes and sanding devices. One important message that he presented is that regardless how good you think your orbital or block sander might be, it is primarily for smoothing, not flattening. The power planer (and hand planes) might flatten, but often will leave high points, ridges and machining marks. The scraper provides a way to flatten wood without leaving as much cut surface texture.

In addition to demonstrating numerous projects where Don has used scrapers, he spent the bulk of his presentation showing how to properly sharpen a scraper. Don’s technique involves three main steps: the first squaring up the edge to remove all old metal burr or “hook” by filing and honing the edge; the second to extend or stretch the metal by honing across the side of the scraper; and the third the creation of the burr or hook, by pushing or bending the extended metal over each edge of the scraper. Don showed a number of tools he typically uses including a flat file in a homemade jig, an oilstone, his “custom” hone (made from an old chrome vanadium screwdriver) and a more recent approach using a four-sided diamond/ water stone.

Stephen Parsons

If I can't **FIX IT** with a hammer, you've got an electrical problem.



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I wonder if the employees for lypton tea take coffee breaks?

Show and Tell: a record number of presenters brought in show and tell picture shows and furniture for the February challenge. This month's challenge was to bring in a piece of furniture (or a presentation) that members have created – recently or in the past. The first presenter was Doug, who brought a presentation of a corner cabinet he built over twenty years ago – reflecting on the very functional design, attractive classic elements, and techniques he has evolved since the days of this early construction. Next up was Tom, who also did a picture presentation of a number of projects that included valences, kids furniture, a lovely secretary desk, and a round pedestal table with a central lazy-susan. Gary followed Tom with another slide presentation of several nice pieces in Gary's great design elements and a few surprising functional innovations. His works included chests of drawers, tables, and a computer desk. Walt was next up and he shared two projects with us; a very detailed bedroom suite for his grand-daughters, and a big project to re-organize a closet. Bob brought a classic hall table piece in Shaker design, that was one of his very early works and still stands the test of time. tapered legs and dovetail joins in the drawers, as well as simple turned knobs were elements that point to the Shaker style. Phil brought a great little bench that covers a hot water radiator in the front hall while providing a great place to put on or take off your boots. A new visitor to our meeting, Bill Howe joined us at the invitation of one of our members and brought along a beautifully sculpted chair he built some time ago. Sheila showed us an adaptation of a half-moon design that she built many years ago in her early apprenticeship (shop class) with some beautiful elements of french-style design. Our last presenter was Don who brought us an innovative piece of work – a foot rest that can work with a regular or rocking chair to provide a nice raised platform for your feet.

Stephen Parsons



Bill Howe



Don MacMillan





Atlantic Woodworkers Association

“It's not a mistake, it a design feature”

AWA Board of Directors 2015-2016

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April is our AGM month;

This is an important time of our organization and we will be looking for a good turn out at the April meeting. This will be a meeting where you nominate, volunteer or bring in some new ideas you might have.

Your input is very important, we can't leave it all up to one or two people to come up with ideas.

Notes from the February meeting are now posted on the web. You may be interested in taking a look, follow the link; [February 2016 | Atlantic Woodworkers' Association](#).

You are unaware of your magician until.....You use a tool, lay it down and without moving from that spot have that tool disappear and then reappear some minutes later in a completely different location